

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Page 8, please replace the two paragraphs beginning on line 13 and bridging to page 9, line 3, with the two amended paragraphs as follows:

Fig. 3 shows an example in which process of manufacturing a food product that is imaged by a digital camera is expressed as image information in accordance with the present invention. In this food product image information 301, the conditions of the manufacturing process in a food processing plant, in which a processed beverage 310 is sealed in glass containers 307 on a conveyor 308, are displayed along with environmental information regarding the time 302, air temperature 303, humidity 304, intensity of ultraviolet radiation 312, degree of cleanliness cleanness 305 and latitude and longitude 306.

The environmental information indicates the following: first, the year, month and day of manufacture can be confirmed from the time 302, and the manufacturing plant can be confirmed from the location 306. As a result, in cases where some type of abnormality occurs in the shipped beverage product, the image information is effective in elucidating the causes of this abnormality. Furthermore, hygiene conditions, such as the possibility of the generation of bacteria or the like, can be ascertained from the air temperature 303, humidity 304, intensity of ultraviolet radiation 312 and degree of cleanliness cleanness 305. In addition, the inspection conditions can be ascertained from the separating out of defective glass containers 311. Furthermore, such information leads to improved reliability of the product by the disclosure of information under normal circumstances, and not just in the case of abnormalities.

Page 9, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 11, with the amended paragraph as follows:

Moreover, the image acquisition means 401 contains numerous types of sensors 403, and the air temperature, humidity, illumination, air pressure, altitude, degree of cleanliness cleanliness and the like are measured by these sensors 403. Such information can also be acquired from signals received by the antenna 402 rather than from the sensors 403. The digital camera 401 incorporates such information into the images at the time of imaging; furthermore, this image information may be sent to a storage destination via the internet or the like from the antenna 402.